

Message Text

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73

ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-06 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 OES-03

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AF-06 ARA-06

NEA-09 ACDA-05 /109 W

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R 211655Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2961

INFO US MISSION GENEVA 6496

AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USUN NEW YORK 1124

USDEL JEC PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRUSSELS 00546

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, PFOR, ICRC, PDIP, WMO, VSVN

SUBJECT: PRG ISSUE AT LAW OF WAR CONFERENCE WMO CONGRESS

REF: STATE 8673; STATE 10509; STATE 12513

1. WE DISCUSSED PRG ISSUE AT CONFERENCE ON LAW OF WAR AND
WMO CONGRESS WITH FOREIGN MINISTRY DIRECTOR FOR FAR EAST
STEYAERT JANUARY 20 PER REFTELS. STEYAERT SAID GOB STILL
OPPOSES FULL PRG PARTICIPATION IN CONFERENCE ON LAW OF WAR
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AND HOPES DECISION OF FIRST SESSION WILL BE ALLOWED TO STAND.

BELGIANS, HOWEVER, ARE CONSIDERING CONTINGENCY WHEREBY PRG WOULD BE ACCEPTED AS OBSERVER AT CONFERENCE ON SAME BASIS AS "LIBERATION MOVEMENTS." GOB WILL DECIDE IN NEXT FEW DAYS WHETHER IT WOULD SUPPORT OBSERVER STATUS IN EVENT PRG SIGNALLED IT WILLING TO ACCEPT. STEYAERT ASKED WHAT US REACTION WOULD BE TO SUCH APPROACH. WE REPLIED THAT US WOULD OPPOSE IT AS WELL AS OTHER MEASURES WHICH WOULD IMPLY ACCEPTANCE OF PRG AS LEGITIMATE GOVERNMENT IN SOUTH VIETNAM.

2. STEYAERT SAID DECISION ON MAIL BALLOT ON OBSERVER STATUS FOR PRG AT WMO CONGRESS ALSO NOT YET MADE, BUT WE INFERRED FROM HIS REMARKS THAT GOB CONSIDERING VOTING IN FAVOR. STEYAERT INDICATED THAT IN CASES OF BOTH LAW OF WAR CONFERENCE AND WMO CONGRESS BELGIUM WOULD COORDINATE POLICY WITH EC-9 PARTNERS DURING COMING DAYS AND THAT EC-9 HOPE TO OVERCOME SPLIT IN RANKS WHICH EMERGED AT 1974 LAW OF WAR SESSION. HE EXPECTED TO BE ABLE TO INFORM US OF DECISIONS EARLY NEXT WEEK. HE ALSO RAISED QUESTION OF WHETHER PRG ISSUE MIGHT ARISE AT CONFERENCE ON REPRESENTATION OF STATES IN THEIR RELATIONS WITH INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, TO BE HELD AT VIENNA FEBRUARY 4-MARCH 15.RENNER

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